THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH 25 STANIFORD STREET, BOSTON, MA 02114

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Mental Health is issuing an emergency regulation under the authority of M.G.L. c. 19, ss. 1 and 18; c. 123, s. 2. The Department describes the substance of the action as follows:

The emergency regulation is an amendment to 104 CMR 27.00, adding 104 CMR 27.19, <u>Subpart C: Operational Standards for Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facilities</u>, to comply with GL. ch. 123 s. 35. This new regulation, under current law, will apply only to DMH operated Section 35 facilities. The purpose of this regulation is to establish authority and set standards for DMH to operate substance use disorder facilities for individuals committed pursuant to GL. ch. 123 s. 35. These units will be subject to the approval of Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) at DPH. This amendment must be promulgated prior to admitting patients to a new Section 35 Unit, which is set to open for women on the grounds of Taunton State Hospital in early February 2016.

PUBLIC HEARING

Date:
March 22, 2016 at 2:00–4:00 P.M.
Location:
DMH Central Office
Boston Room
25 Staniford Street
Boston, MA 02114

METHOD OF COMMENT: Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Mental Health, 25 Staniford Street, Boston, MA 02114; or Fax to (617) 626-8242; or submitted to e-mail address: <u>DMH-regulations@state.ma.us</u> <u>NO LATER THAN 3/22/16.</u> Comment Period ends on March 25, 2016.

INFORMATION: Copies of the proposed regulations may be obtained from the Department of Mental Health Legal Office, 25 Staniford Street, Boston, MA 02114, and may also be found on the Department's Internet site at www.state.ma.us/dmh.

ACCOMMODATION: If you plan to attend the public hearing and wish to request the accommodation of a sign language or other interpreter please contact DMH Legal Office at least 10 days in advance of the hearing date at (617) 626-8236.

By Order of the Department of Mental Health Joan Mikula, Commissioner January 25, 2016